

City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2013

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, and Robert Henderson, answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Assistant Kristi Bruther, Records Clerk Kathy Cragen, Payroll Coordinator Stephanie Shepherd, and City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present. Councilors Houglan and Wertz were absent.

Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer's Assistant to call roll. Mayor McGuinness led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Presentations

Presentation of 35 Years of Service Plaque to Police Officer Richard Sharp - Police Chief O'Sullivan came forward and thanked Officer Rick Sharp for his years of service to the Franklin Police Department and presented him with a 35 Year Service Plaque. Mayor McGuinness also commended Officer Sharp for his many years of service.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the September 16, 2013 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Council President Barnett made a motion to move Other Business ahead of Old Business, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

ICJI 2013 Operation Pullover Grant - Detective Scott Carter came forward and explained the department would like to submit an application for a \$96,000 grant funded by Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. A discussion was held. Councilor Abban made a motion to approve, seconded by Council President Barnett. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

Presentation of Signatures in Support of Backyard Chickens - Kathy Thomas came forward and presented her petition to allow Backyard Chickens to the Council. Ms. Thomas stated that she had gotten 235 signatures on the petition. Councilor Ault told Ms. Thomas that she was to be commended for her work on getting this petition signed by so many people. Councilor Ault stated he would support moving forward with sending this to the Plan Commission. A discussion was held. Council President Barnett made a motion to deny moving forward with backyard chickens, seconded by Councilor Henderson. A roll call vote was taken: Barnett aye, Abban aye, Ault nay, Austin aye, Henderson aye. The motion to deny was approved 4-1.

2014 Budget Hearing

Ms. Nicki Franklin from Peters Financial Consultants came forward and gave the Council a brief overview of their fiscal plan for 2014. A discussion was held.

Public Hearing(s)

The Mayor presented the three salary ordinances and the 2014 Budget Ordinance for public hearing. A discussion was held. The Clerk Treasurer's office provided a memorandum to the council outlining requested or necessary budget adjustments and changes made since the last meeting. Mayor McGuinness stated that the corrections listed on the memo were presented at the last meeting on September 16. The Mayor stated that the Council had received corrected budget books tonight and explained that interior yellow pages have had changes made to them.

Council President Barnett stated that Parks Superintendent Orner had sent out a memo regarding hiring another full time person to manage additional work. Mayor McGuinness stated that the Superintendent's request is not included in his budget proposal. The Mayor stated what is before them is his budget. He stated that he had allowed for 3% raises across the board and no increases on employee insurance premiums. Mayor McGuinness stated that in the event that a department head authorized an increase above the 3% raise, it was required to decrease in another area of their budget.

A discussion was held regarding salary increases for department heads and the proposal to increase the insurance premiums paid by employees by 20%. The Council requested that the Clerk Treasurer provided estimates for 4% & 5% raises with a 20% increase in insurance premiums. Clerk-Treasurer's Assistant Bruther was instructed to have the Clerk-Treasurer and Payroll Coordinator create a spreadsheet showing these possible increases before the next regular meeting.

Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for a Public Hearing on Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 13-16 - Budget Appropriations and Tax Rates for 2014, Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 13-13 - Civil City Salary Ordinance; Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 13-14 - Sewer Utility Salary Ordinance, and Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 13-15 - Elected Officials Salary Ordinance. However no one asked to speak. The Mayor closed the public hearing.

Councilor Ault asked why there were two employees with the same title but different rates of pay on the sewer utility salary ordinance. Sewer Billing Manager Phillips stated that one of these positions has additional duties, so therefore she should be making more money. He suggested that the title of one of these positions be changed to avoid confusion.

New Business

Introduction

Common Council Ordinance No.: 13-12 An Ordinance Approving a Resolution of the City of Franklin, Indiana Plan Commission, and Annexing Certain Property Contiguous to the Franklin Corporate Limits (to be known as Creekside Annexation 1) – Attorney Roger Young came forward and stated he is representing the Franklin School Corporation. Mr. Young stated they are seeking to annex a small part of the Creekside Elementary campus into the City of Franklin; in the future they would like to annex all of Creekside & Custer Baker. Mr. Young stated this would benefit the school corporation with a reduction in insurance rates, and they would be able to apply for grants and other assistance if they are located within city limits. A discussion was held. Senior Planner Myers stated the public hearing on this ordinance will take place at the October 21 meeting. Councilor Henderson made a motion to read by title only, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Mayor McGuinness read the title.

Public Hearing

Common Council Resolution No.: 13-27 A Resolution Adopting the City of Franklin Comprehensive Plan 2013 and Confirming Resolution No.: PC 2013-28 of the City of Franklin Plan Commission - Councilor Barnett made a motion to read by title only, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The Mayor read the title. Cory Daly of HWC Engineering came forward and gave an overview of the Franklin Comprehensive Plan. Mayor McGuinness opened the floor for public hearing. Attorney Dustin Huddleston came forward and thanked the Council for letting him work on the steering

committee that worked on the Comprehensive Plan. No one else asked to speak. Mayor McGuinness closed the public hearing. Councilor Abban made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Council Member Comments

There were no additional comments.

Adjournment

A motion and a second were made to adjourn. As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, October 21, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer

Enrolled: 10/17/13

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer